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*Sur un cas d'amnésie rétro-antérograde, probablement d'origine hystérique.* J. M. CHARCOT. Rev. de Méd., 1892, XII., 81.

Charcot has detailed the circumstances of a most interesting case of amnesia probably resulting from an attack of hysteria, the latter brought on by the shock of bad news. The patient has wholly lost her memory of all events occurring during the month and a half preceding the attack, while since that time she has only been able to remember for a few moments what is going on around her.

Charcot believes the case to be one of modified hysteria continued under the form of amnesia. Among other reasons for this view is the susceptibility which the patient manifests to hypnotic treatment. Under a regimen of suggestion she is slowly regaining her memory. So the case is one of dynamic origin and not at all due to lesion. If the outcome is successful, as Charcot expects, the case ought to afford much valuable — if not wholly new — material.

J. R. ANGELL.

*Amnésie post-éclampsique.* H. BIDON. Revue Médecin, Nov., 1891.

This is a brief and instructive account of several cases of amnesia caused by puerperal convulsions. The impairment of memory varies in degree from inability to recall isolated words up to the complete loss of all events connected with the pregnancy and even the married life with its preceding courtship. The most instructive case is of this latter type, to which Bidon has given the name of *amnésie systématisée*. The condition is by no means to be identified, he thinks, with cases of double consciousness, and he is confident that no symptoms are present to indicate either hysteria or epilepsy. His explanation has an attractive plausibility, and is in line with recent psychologic hypothesis. He assumes that during the convulsions the cerebral cells undergo, through profound circulatory disorder, such violent modification as to destroy all the more recent and so more superficial memory traces. The older and deeper traces of earlier events are consequently less affected. No lesion need be assumed.

J. R. ANGELL.

*Ein Beitrag zur psychischen und suggestiven Behandlung der Neurasthenie.* Von DR. FREIHERRN, von SCHRENCK-NÖTZING. Berlin, 1894, pp. 48.

Of 828 neurasthenic patients, Hösslin found psychic symptoms in 765. The stigmata of nervous asthenia are so mobile and changeable that it is hard to fix their cause. The psyche can cause disease. Psychic cases are either (a) direct concept therapeutics, (b) indirect or negative psychic treatment, and (c) marked psychotherapeutics. Somnolence is mere idioplastic passivity, according to Van Eeden, that comes by inner concentration. Of 8,705 persons, without regard to age or sex, only 519 were refractory, 4,316 hypotaxic, 2,557 became somnolent, and 1,313 somnambulatory. Out of 278 patients hypnotized by various authors, twenty-four were not helped, seventy-two recovered, eighty-two were helped, eleven relapsed. Casuistic tables presented by the author show a predominance of benefit. The enumeration of functions influenced is by far the best yet made, and shows that few functional diseases are unaffected by hypnotic suggestion.

*I Problemi dell' Ipnotismo. Letture tenute all' Ateneo Trevigiano nei giorni 22 Maggio e 19 Giugno, 1892.* DR. GIUSEPPE STUCCHI. Treviso, 1893, pp. 131, 12mo.

After a general and historical introduction, in which Mesmer, Faria, Braid, and later investigators are briefly referred to, Prof.